THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) No such permission has been given to any delegate/delegation from India to attend any conference organised by the LTTE abroad.

Militants strike at BSF HQs., Bandipore

5557. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the court of inquiry inquiring into the Kashmir militants strike at the BSF, HQs in Bandipore in July last year has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government with regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In the final inquiry thirteen BSF officers and personnel were found guilty of security lapses and dereliction of duty and action against them is being taken as per rules. The CPMFs have been directed to step up the security of all the establishments of the forces and to sensitize their field formations to be in a state of total alert to meet any eventuality.

Low conviction in murder cases

5558. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that experience has shown that the percentage of conviction in the solved murder cases in the city has been very low;

(b) if so, the number of murder cases solved in 1998 and 1999 and the cases in which the suspects were convicted;

(c) the major reasons identified for the low conviction in murder cases; and

(d) what measures have been taken by Government for a more scientific method of investigation for maximum number of conviction in murder cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (d) The question presumably relates to Delhi. According to information received from the Delhi Police, the number of murder cases worked out and suspects convicted during the years 1998 and 1999 was as under:—

Year	Total Murder Cases	Cases Worked out	Convicted	Acquitted
1998	651	412	6	25
1999	643	435	1	1

A large number of cases were pending trial or investigation during the said years. The reasons for low conviction rate include, *inter alia*, prolonged trial and lengthy procedure, lack of independent witnesses and allurement of witnesses by the accused. The Central Government, under its Scheme for Modernisation of State Police Forces, has been providing financial assistance to the State Government for procuring scientific equipments, etc.

ISI activities in the Western border

5559. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of ISI activities noticed by Government in the country, recently; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to check such activities in the Western border in Gujarat and Rajasthan which has become a safe haven for ISI activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) Pak ISI is persisting with its efforts to foment trouble in various parts of the country. Several Pak ISI backed terrorist modules have been detected/neutralised recently in Punjab, UP and other areas of the country. The activities cover infiltrating militants, smuggling in weapons, explosives, fake currency and drugs with a view to stepping up the activities of militant groups.

(b) In order to check ISI activities and curb the smuggling and other anti-national activities from across the Western border, Government have undertaken the work of construction of fencing and flood lighting on the border. Security fencing in Rajasthan Sector has been completed recently. Government have also approved a comprehensive proposal for construction of fencing and flood lighting on raised embankment, border roads, link roads and order Outposts in 310 KMs. of Rann of Kutch area in Gujarat Sector. Apart from this, the Government has sanctioned additional battalions to reduce the gaps between the OPs. Patrolling/nakas have been increased/intensified. Border patrolling has been intensified. Mounted patrolling on horses, camels